

FOR HIS GLORY

Volume 16, Issue 5

May, 2013

Who is the man who keeps Christ's sayings? Obviously, *he is a man who has close dealings with Christ*. He hears what He says. He notes what He says. He clings to what He says. We meet with persons nowadays who talk about faith in God, but they do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as the great Sacrifice and Reconciler. But without a Mediator there is no coming to God. Jesus says, "No man comes unto the Father, but by Me." His witness is true. Brothers and Sisters, we glorify Christ as God, Himself! Truly, the unity of the Godhead is never doubted among us! And while "there is one God," there is also "one Mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus." Remember that Christ Jesus, as God-Man, Mediator, is essential to all our communion with the Father! You *cannot* trust God, nor love God, nor serve God aright unless you willingly consent to His appointed way of reconciliation, redemption, justification, and access which is only through the precious blood of Jesus Christ!—CHS, 1890



OH, TO GLORIFY CHRIST!

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

But now, my dear Friend, are you afraid of being laughed at for Christ's sake? Well, let me ask you, which is better, to be a servant of man or a servant of Christ? Which-ever way you may judge, you can never enter Heaven's door, to wear Christ's crown unless you are here willing to be Christ's servant, and to bear Christ's Cross. "Well, but I do not like this; I do not like that." Refer to the Bible—that is the Master's Book. As it is written there, so let your life and actions be ruled. You remember what the mother of Jesus said to the servants at the wedding in Cana of Galilee? "Whatever He says unto you, do it."

I do not see how you can serve Christ if there is anything in that Book which you see to be there, and yet willfully neglect. Perhaps there are some of you whom that sentence will hit very hard. I know persons who say they are Baptists in principle, but they have never been baptized! Baptists without any principle at all, I call them—persons who know their Master's will, but who will not obey it; I can make great excuses for Brothers and Sisters who do not see it; I think they might see it if they liked—but if they do not discern

the precept, I can understand their not obeying it; but when people know their Lord's will, and do it not—though I am sure I would not wish to speak hastily on such a matter—I am not certain whether willful disobedience to a known Command of Christ may not be a token of their *rejecting Christ altogether!*

I would not like to run the risk for myself, at any rate. I would feel it unsafe to say that I believed I was saved, while there was some command of my Lord which I could obey, which I clearly saw to be my duty, and yet to which I solemnly declared I would withhold my obedience. Surely, in such a case, I have not let Christ come into my heart.

If you would have Christ, He will be absolute Lord and Master—every humor and stubbornness of yours must be set aside, for where He comes He comes to reign. As He makes His entrance, He comes as the "King of *Glory*"—that is to say, He must be a glorious King, glorious to you—One whom you seek to glorify. You must not receive Him as though He were some paltry potentate who you did not care for, but He must be full of Glory to you—the "Wonderful,

(See *Glorify Christ* on page 2)

Are You a Descendant Of the "By God's Race"?

By C. H. Spurgeon

A Protestant, on one occasion, was bid to bow down before a Catholic crucifix when he was about to be knighted, and many others did so. "It is only a form, you know," they said. "But," said he, "by God, I won't." And they called him, "By God," and afterwards others who stood out boldly in the same way were called, "By Gods," or, "Bigots." So that tone of refusal has become a term of reproach.

Here is the grandest bigot of all! Daniel is his name! He will pray! They will throw him into a lions' den! "The bigoted fool!"

Ah, yes, but God did not discountenance his unswerving uprightness. He had said before his God that he would do the right, and the right thing he did, whatever might happen.

Young men and young women, I would like you to go to school before Daniel and learn to say, "Whatever happens, we cannot lie, cannot do the wrong thing; we cannot believe what men teach us when contrary to God's teaching. We cannot give up prayer and personal holiness, whether there is a lions' den or no lions' den. We will stand fast by that for God's own sake."

(See *May, by God's Grace* on page 3)

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GLORIFY CHRIST

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Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace”—you must receive Him into your heart; not as men receive a common guest, but as men receive their dearest and most honored friend, one whom they love and reverence with all the powers of their nature.

He must be the King of Glory to you; and from now on it must be your desire to glorify Him. This is not a hard thing to ask; for oh, it is the pleasure, it is the foretaste of Heaven! It is unspeakable bliss to live to the Glory of Christ. Even when one is suffering, suffering is sweet if it brings Him honor! If one is despised for Christ, it is delightful to be reproached if it does but make Him more glorious—

*“If on my face for Your dear name,
Shame and reproaches be,
I’ll hail reproach, and welcome shame,
If You remember me.”*

Oh, to glorify Christ! I think Heaven would lose half its charms for me if I could not glorify Christ there; and the vast howling wilderness were Heaven on earth to me if I might but glorify His name here below. To glorify Christ is far more to the Christian’s mind than harps of gold, streets of crystal, or gates of pearl. This is the true music of the soul; the true excitement of triumph; the true chorus of eternity—that He always lives; that the crown is on His head; that God also has highly exalted Him.

Oh, this is our exultation, this is our joy, our triumph, our blessedness! If we can but promote His Glory, the place where we can best promote it shall be our Heaven. The sick bed, the hospital, or the poor house shall be our Heaven, if we can there best serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the King of Glory.—Adapted from Ages Software’s Spurgeon Collection—Sermon #750, Volume 13—A TRIUMPHAL ENTRANCE—By God’s Grace, for all 63 volume of Spurgeon’s sermons in Modern English, and for over 500 Spanish translations, free of charge, visit www.spurgeongems.org.

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REJOICE THAT CHRIST IS PREACHED AMONG THE GENTILES!

By Charles H. Spurgeon

God has multiplied the seed of Abraham after the Spirit among the Gentiles, whereas the seed of Abraham after the flesh have, in these times, rejected the Savior. Rejoice then, in the mystery that Christ is preached among the Gentiles! Mark you, *preached*, for He is to be set forth in that manner. The Church is ever to maintain this great, incontrovertible mystery that the setting forth of Christ to the Gentiles is to be by *preaching*, and not by any other means of man’s devising. Suppose I could take my pencil and draw the Savior with such matchless skill that a Raffaele or a Titian could not rival me? God has never ordained that Christ should so be set forth to the Gentiles.

Or, suppose I should perform the ceremony of the “mass” with all the exactness, and with all the gorgeousness which the church of Rome would require? Such a setting forth of Christ among the Gentiles would not be according to the Divine Mystery. Christ is to be *preached* among the Gentiles! The appointed way of manifesting the Incarnate God to the sons of men is by *preaching*—the Church must always maintain this! The strongest castle of the walls of Zion for offense and defense must always be the pulpit! God is pleased by the foolishness of preaching to save them who believe!

I hate to see, as I do, sometimes, in certain modern buildings, the pulpit stuck in the corner, and the altar in the most conspicuous place. The “altar of sacrifice,” indeed! The place of defilement and remembrance of sin—how come is that in the holy place at all? God has never ordained it to be there! Where in Holy Scripture have we mention of a material altar in the assemblies of Believers? Our only altar is the *spiritual* Altar of our Lord’s Person, whereof they have no right to eat that serve the tabernacle of outward forms of rites and ceremonies. Altars belong to Jews and heathens, and even *they* never bow before them! None but your Popish idolaters have fallen as low as that!

The most prominent agency in the Church of God is the preaching of Christ—this is the trumpet of Heaven, and the battering ram of Hell! By this door salvation comes, for faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God—and how shall they hear without a preacher? God’s way of creating faith in men’s hearts is not by pictures, music, or symbols, but by the hearing of the Word of God! This may seem a strange thing—but strange let it seem, for it is a *mystery*—and a great mystery, but a fact beyond all controversy! Let the Church forever maintain that Christ is to be preached unto the Gentiles!

A part of the greatness of the mystery lies in the persons who preached the Gospel. It was a strange thing that Jesus should be preached unto the Gentiles by unlearned and ignorant men. One of the Apostles, it is true, was of another class, but he declares that he never preached with excellency of speech; he declared that in all simplicity he laid bare the mystery of God in plain language. It was wonderful that Christ should be preached unto the Gentiles so rapidly. It was but the other day the 120 were in the upper room, and within a few years there was no part of the civilized globe which had not heard the name of Jesus!

(See *Mystery of Preaching* on page 3)

May, by God's Grace, We All Be Bigots!

(Continued from page 1)

May that same spirit come back to Englishmen, and if it ever does, then I guarantee you the slaves of Rome will need to pack up and get straight away, for it is the bending men, the *willow* men, that will sell the Truth of God at any price. Oh that we may learn to sell it at *no* price, but to stand fast like pillars of iron for God, for Christ, for the Truth of God, for every holy thing!

Now I fear I ought to say before I leave this reflection, that there are some who have no decision of character at all because they are not Christians. Some men are Christians, perhaps, though they have not decision enough to avow it—*sneaking* Christians! They have, they say, with their heart, but never with their mouth, confessed Christ. They have never been baptized as He bids them, and as they ought to be, according to His Word.

And there are some who have made a profession, but it is a smuggled profession. Their friends at home hardly know it, and they do not want them to know it. Oh, if I enlisted in Her Majesty's service, and had my regimentals given me to wear, I would wear them! I should not like to have them packed away and go about in other clothes, for I should be afraid of being taken up as a deserter.

There are others who dishonor their profession and do not live as they should. And there are those who, if they were persecuted, would speedily throw off their profession. They can go with Christ with silk slippers over smooth-shaven lawns—but as to walking through mire and mud with Him—that they cannot do! Oh for the heart of a Daniel, every one of us, to follow Christ at all hazards.—Adapted from Ages Software's Spurgeon Collection, Sermon #1154, Volume 20—DANIEL FACING THE LION'S DEN—By God's Grace, for all 63 volume of Spurgeon's sermons in Modern English, and for over 500 Spanish translations, free of charge, visit www.spurgeongems.org

MYSTERY OF PREACHING

(Continued from page 2)

They had penetrated Scythia. They had subdued the barbarians—their only weapon being the Cross!

They had triumphed at Athens, in the stronghold of classic learning. They had passed into Rome, and set up the Cross amidst the luxurious vices of the capital. No place was untrod by the Christian missionary, and no place was unaffected by the power of the Gospel which he preached. This is a great mystery—may the Lord repeat the mystery again and again! O that preaching might once again be recognized to be God's power unto salvation, and used everywhere—in the Church, in the lecture hall, in the street—in foreign lands and at home! The voice of the Truth of God in the preaching of Jesus is the great power of God!

One question here, and we leave it—Have you reverently heard the Gospel? For there goes with the declaration that God saves through preaching, the warning, "Take heed how you hear." If God waits to bless by hearing, woe unto the men who hear inattentively and disrespectfully! Woe unto the hearers who are not *doers* of the Word! A responsibility goes with hearing, and God grant that you may be *obedient* hearers so that we who preach may give a good account of you at the last—that our ministry may not have been in vain—but may have been to you the voice of God to your salvation.—Adapted from Ages Software's Spurgeon Collection, Sermon #1087, Volume 18—THE HEXAPLA OF MYSTERY—By God's Grace, for all 63 volume of Spurgeon's sermons in Modern English, and for over 500 Spanish translations, free of charge, visit www.spurgeongems.org

OUR MASTER APPOINTED ONLY TWO DUTIES FOR THOSE FOR WHOM HE DIED...

By C. H. Spurgeon

Dear Brothers and Sisters, there are only two great duties which the Lord has appointed for His people—and these we should observe because they are appointed by Him. I refer to *the two commands regarding Baptism and the Supper of the Lord*. In keeping these commandments, there is a great reward to our own souls, but we ought to come as Believers to be baptized out of love to Jesus. We ought not to ask, "What is the good of this?" We may not say, "Shall I get anything by it?" But we are to simply say this, "He bade me, and I will do it for the love I bear His name."

I am shocked when I hear people say, "But it is not *essential* to salvation!" You mean and beggarly spirit! Will you do nothing but what is *essential* to your own salvation? A Pharisee or a harlot might talk so! Is this your love to Christ—that you will not obey Him unless He shall pay you for it? Unless He shall make your soul's salvation depend upon it?

Oh, if you love the Master, the least of His commandments will seem very precious in your sight, and you will feel, that because you love Him you will obey Him! If obedience to an ordinance should bring you no good, whatever—if Jesus bade you, it is enough for you—whatever it may be! Indeed, it is all the sweeter to do the Lord's bidding when no trace of personal gain can be found mingling with the motive!

So, too, when we approach the table of communion, we shall get a blessing there if we come aright—but I think we too often fail to remember that we should sit at the holy table with the sole view of honoring the Lord who is remembered in that festival.

He says that we are to show His death until He comes. It is to *Him* that the feast is dedicated. To keep up the memory of His death, and to testify the fact to others, we eat of the bread and drink of the cup. We celebrate the sacred Supper for our Lord's sake—not because of Church rules, nor because it is the custom of the brotherhood to do so—nor even because it is a hallowed refreshment to our own hearts. We commune at the sacred feast out of love to our Well-Beloved.

PRAY FOR GRACE TO BE HOLY

Letters to Mike Gendron Of Proclaiming the Gospel:

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Janet, Internet, writes—Mr. Gendron, I sincerely hope that you are just plain stupid. I'm referring to the distortions you print in your newsletter. You're not fooling any Catholic that has a true faith in Christ, only those who never had one to start with. Your master, Satan, is very pleased with your efforts. He has a reward waiting for all those who work for him! I'm still praying that you will be saved...but it can happen only through the most precious of all pearls...the Catholic Church! I pray for your eyes to be opened, don't leave your conversion until it's too late.

John B., Internet, writes—Mike, I think you are well-motivated but on the wrong track. Only one church is the true church—perpetual, apostolic and Catholic. Read Faith of our Fathers by Gibbons and come back home where you can have some real impact.

Brother Mike responds to John B.—John, Your church councils have twice put the Bible on the list of *forbidden books* and it rejects *the substitutionary atonement of Christ* which is the principle doctrine of the Gospel. The one true Church is composed of all who are born-again of the Holy Spirit. They all possess “repentance towards God, faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ.” They all build upon one foundation which is the Lord Jesus, not Peter (1 Cor 3:11). Every member has been adopted into the family of God, and their names are written in heaven (Rom 8:15; Heb 12:23). This is the only Church of which no one member can perish, they are safe for all eternity; they are never cast away (John 6:37-39). The election of God the Father, the continual intercession of God the Son, the sanctifying power of God the Holy Spirit protect all who have been divinely chosen (Eph 1). Not one sheep of Christ's flock shall ever be plucked out of His hand (John 10:28). May God grant you repentance so that you can become a member of *The Lord's Church*.

Karin J., Sweden, writes—Dear Brother Mike, I am so blessed by your ministry! It is such an important task to educate and warn what Catholicism teaches and to reach out to those ensnared by their doctrines. In Sweden (as in USA and the rest of the world) the “Ecumenical movement” is spreading like wildfire. It is heartbreaking to see how denominational leaders seek ways to cooperate and unite with Rome. I have, many times, linked to your website and your teachings on the internet to warn my Christian brothers and sisters in Sweden and the USA! Thank you for having a servant's heart!

Douglas S., Internet, writes—For you to suggest that a majority of Roman Catholics will not be saved is ridiculous. To suggest that someone must leave the church which God Himself established in order to gain salvation is absolutely insidious. My advice to you, is get your head out of the Bible and into your heart.

Brother Mike Responds—There is only one Gospel that has the power of God for salvation (Rom 1:16). Paul said if you believe any other gospel you have believed in vain (1 Cor 15:2). The Roman Catholic Church not only proclaims another gospel, but condemns those who believe the true Gospel with over 100 anathemas. I have found the majority of Catholics adhere to a gospel of works, sacraments, self-righteousness, indulgences,

and other requirements that oppose and nullify God's Grace. I have never said that Catholics must leave their church to be saved. However, once they have been born-again with the Spirit of Truth, and are disciplined in the Word of God, they will have no choice but to leave the institution that once deceived them with a false gospel. If you desire to be a disciple of Christ, you will put your head in the Bible, because the mark of a true disciple is one who abides in Christ's Word (John 8:31-32).

John L., Internet, writes—I'm a Catholic who had the unfortunate experience of having a friend send me one of your tracts called *Scripture vs. Tradition*. As anyone should know Catholics don't believe Scripture is against Tradition. The title is misleading. The content was nothing more than hateful anti-Catholic propaganda, an angry attack on the Church, and the accusation that Catholic's are “apostate in their faith.” This tract attempts half-heartedly to disassociate Catholics from the Church. This is the common pattern of prejudice. It's easier to attack the institution than Catholics, themselves. This is an intrinsically false dichotomy however. I am the Church. I'm not ignorant, gullible or brainwashed as you would believe. If you hate the Church you hate me. I believe that you do hate Catholics. I further believe that the real purpose of this pamphlet is to ensure that the coals under the fire of Protestant prejudice toward Catholics don't get cold. This tract will ensure the continuing enmity between Catholics and Protestants. No one could honestly put together such a blatantly misleading tract by accident. If you want someone to listen to your opinions, you must respect their opinions as well.

Brother Mike responds—The tract objectively points out the opposition between the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the New American Bible, today's Bible of choice for American Catholics. The reason Catholics do not believe Scripture is against Tradition is because they have an “infallible” group of Bishops, called the Magisterium, who distort the interpretation of Scripture such that the two appear to be in harmony. The tract exhorts Catholics to examine their faith, as we are all asked to do (2 Cor 13:5). You are right in saying Catholics make up the Church, but its teachings and traditions are distinctively different from the Catholic people. By exposing the errors of the Church's teachings, we point Catholics to the only truly Infallible source and interpreter for the Truth of God—the Holy Scriptures. Once they look into the Word and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the Truth to them, they will see they have been worshipping a convoluted Jesus—one who is unable to save them completely and forever. I do not understand how you can say that I hate Catholics. To hate them would be to ignore them as they march proudly towards Hell's gate. To love them is to do what I am doing—dedicating my life to equipping the saints throughout the world to reach them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Unless Roman Catholics are lovingly confronted with the Truth of God, they will never know they have been deceived about life's most important question: “What must I do to be saved.” The enmity is not between Catholics and Protestants, but between believers and unbelievers, truth and error, light and darkness, and the temple of God and idols (2 Cor 6:14-17). None of us should respect another man's opinion if it opposes God's Word. We should correct it with Scripture (2 Tim 3:16).

**REMEMBER BROTHER MIKE GENDRON
IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS.**



Gems gleaned by Jim Robinette.

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“Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ.”
Galatians 1:3.

Notice that, in all of his Epistles, Paul constantly reminds of the Grace of God and the love He bears to all Believers. He says, *Grace be to you and peace*. This word *peace* includes all worldly prosperity. By it Paul is asking God to provide those things which He considers for our good. He will shower His riches upon us and reveal His bounty so that we might praise Him for His goodness.

However, the wealth of this world will be harmful for us unless we have found favor with the Lord. Hence, Paul speaks here in an orderly way, always placing God’s Grace and free pardon before an increase in worldly prosperity. Though we may ask God to bless us with those things we need, we must not forget the most important blessing is to be members of His Church and assured of God’s love in our hearts.

The Light of God’s Countenance should suffice us. Although God permits us to ask for good things from His hand, we must keep a tight rein on our desires. God may afflict us with many sorrows, and at such times we need to value His Grace above everything else. If we live in comfort, surrounded by all kinds of pleasures and delights, we will still be miserable if we do not have the peace of conscience that comes from knowing that God loves and accepts us.

We should not desire earthly goods more than the love of God. For what if God, who loves us, wishes to test our patience by making us suffer in this world, and subjects us to many trials? Even then, we must prize His love above all else and patiently bear all trials, though it seems as if everything is against us.”

“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”

Galatians 2:16

Since God has loved us and has showered His grace upon us, we are obliged to do our part by forgetting about self and devoting ourselves completely to Him. In other words, the two main factors in our religion are, first, to recognize that God is to be served and glorified; and second, to understand how we can present ourselves to Him and be accepted and acknowledged as His children, acknowledging Him as our Father. Then we can have full assurance of the salvation of our souls.

In addition, we learn from this text that when God commanded the ceremonial law, He did not intend for us to cling to such external things. He wanted the children of Israel to exercise patience, acknowledging poverty and misery, and rid themselves of all corruptions of the flesh.

Indeed, His purpose was to lead them to the Lord Jesus Christ so they would put their trust in Him and lean on Him completely for salvation. Those who sought to keep the ceremonial law as if it were absolutely vital and a sin not to do so were establishing a pattern of worship that was against God’s will and contrary to His intention. Those who did so were therefore false teachers, distorting the real significance of the law. In addition, they were instructing people to exalt themselves and to boast of their own works. That does not bring glory to God, for if we attribute to ourselves even a little merit, we are robbing and spoiling God of what rightfully belongs to Him.”—Adapted from John Calvin 1509-1564

GREAT NEWS!

By C. H. Spurgeon

As I glanced at the words, “Everlasting Father,” and thought of Him as the Founder of an ever-living system, I said to myself, “Ah then, the Christian religion will never die out!” It is not possible that the Truth as it is in Jesus should ever be put away if He is “The Everlasting Father.”

I feel as if I should quote again Master Hugh Latimer, when, standing back to back with Ridley at the stake, “Courage, Master Ridley,” he said, “we shall this day light such a candle in England as shall never be put out.” Look yonder at Christ on the Cross! He did that day light such a candle as never can be put out! He is “The Everlasting Father.”

He set rolling that day, as it were, a snowflake of Truth as He died upon the Cross; and you know what the snowflake does upon the high Alps; a bird’s wing, perhaps, sets it rolling, and it gathers another, and another, and another, till, as it descends, it becomes a mass of snow; and by-and-by, as it leaps from crag to crag, it grows larger, and larger, and larger, until ponderous masses of ice and snow cohere together, and at the last, with an awful thundering crash the avalanche rolls down, fills the valley, and sweeps all before it.

Even so, this Everlasting Father on the Cross set in motion a mighty force which has gone on swelling and increasing, gathering to be a ponderous mass of mighty teaching, and the day shall come when, like an irresistible avalanche, it shall fall upon the palaces of the Vatican and upon the towers of Rome, when the mosques of Mohammed and the temples of the gods shall be crushed beneath its stupendous weight, and The Everlasting Father shall have done the deed.—Adapted from Sermon #724, Volume 12—HIS NAME—THE EVERLASTING FATHER—read/download, by God’s Grace, all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons, and over 500 Spanish translations free of charge at www.spurgeongems.org.)

**PRAY FOR
WARDENS AND
OFFICERS.**

A Study of Ephesians 4:24**PUTTING ON THE NEW MAN – PART 6**

God is holy. Even the holy Lord Jesus Christ, when He prayed to God, addressed Him as “HOLY FATHER.” His holiness is brought out in a passage like Isaiah 6:1-4—“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the Temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!’ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.”

Sin is the result of rebellion against God. To be unholy in the ultimate sense is to be AGAINST GOD! And that is the only way to really understand what holiness means. Holiness is not simply a high standard, but it is being pleasing to God. That is why Isaiah, right after he saw that tremendous vision of God in His awesome holiness said in Isaiah 6:5, “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of Hosts.”

Because God is Holy, He always deals with sin. Sin is the result of rebellion AGAINST HIM! That is what the great judgments of the Bible are all about. That is why God brought the Flood. His holiness was offended. We are told in Genesis 6:5, “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” That is why He rained fire and brimstone down upon Sodom and Gomorrah; and that is why Hell will be such a horrible place. Jesus Himself described it three times in Mark 9 as the place where “the worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.”

If we would be holy, if we want to be created according to God in true righteousness in holiness, then we are going to have to consider that sin is first and foremost against God. We must learn not to think of sin only as something which inconveniences us, or which makes us miserable; we must learn to see that sin is wronging and insulting God.

That brings us to another important point that is made by our verse, for our verse also tells us HOW God will form these qualities of His image in us. He tells us what will produce righteousness and holiness in His people.

In order to grasp this point, we need to see exactly what the words of our text say. The New King James version says that the new man is created according to God “in true righteousness and holiness.” This translation is legitimate. But I believe that a more literal translation of the words in the Greek is much more beneficial here. The Greek says, “in righteousness and holiness OF THE TRUTH.” That is the way the New American Standard version has it. When the words are translated in this way, it is easier to see that the point Paul is making is that the righteousness and holiness which God is forming in His people comes by the Truth of God. As Jesus put it in John 17:17, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”

The same point is made by the same Apostle in his letter to the Colossians. He says in Colossians 3:10, “and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created

him.” Note that he is telling us how the new man is formed in the Believer. He is renewed “in knowledge.” The new life of the Believer is to be governed by His Truth. It is the truth of God’s Word which encourages, stimulates, and causes the growth and development of the new man.

This is truly an emphasis throughout the New Testament. Jesus told His disciples in John 8:31b-32, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” Peter tells those to whom he ministered in 1 Peter 2:2, “as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,” Paul summarizes the matter in Romans 6:17, “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.”

The application of this to us is very obvious. We must make learning the truth of God’s Word our life-long pursuit. Too many Christians stop with the basic realization that their sins are forgiven. Now, we in no way want to minimize what a central and wonderful Truth of God that is. The forgiveness of sins is a truth we want to revel in every day of our lives. But we must not stop at that, for if we do not keep learning God’s Word, we will remain spiritual babies, and righteousness and holiness will not be formed in us.

And so, Brothers and Sisters, we must study our Bibles every day. Nothing is more important and fundamental to our putting on the new man. You may not always feel like reading it, but remember, it is not always a matter of feeling. When people are physically sick, they don’t feel like eating, but they know that sooner or later they must at least take a little chicken soup, or they will become too weak to recover.—PF

Continued next month, Lord willing.

**IF YOU LOVE
MY MASTER,
JESUS CHRIST,
REMEMBER YOU
WERE BOUGHT WITH
A PRICE.**

**PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN PRISONS.
PRAY FOR THE SPOUSES AND CHILDREN
OF ALL PRISONERS WORLDWIDE.**

THE “I AM”S OF JESUS CHRIST—PART 4 “I AM THE DOOR” (JOHN 10:7)

By Daniel E. Parks, Pastor

Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, 74 Cane Carlton, Frederiksted, VI 00840, USA

We need a door through which we may obtain access to fellowship with God. That door was shut in the fall of our race in the sin of the first man, Adam. He was created as a sinless creature with access to, and fellowship with, God. But he sinned against God and consequently lost access to God, and was barred from fellowship with God. Since Adam's sin and fall was the sin and fall of the whole human race, (Rom 5:12-19), the door of fellowship with God has been shut, also, to all his descendants. If any of us is to ever obtain fellowship with God, a door must be opened for us.

Jesus Christ declares, “I am the door” (John 10:7, 9). God has sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world so that sinners barred from Him might freely and boldly approach Him. Observe:

1) Jesus Christ is the door made available to all: “If anyone enters by Me...” (v 9). God bars the door of salvation and fellowship to no one who will come to Him through Jesus Christ. Whoever and whatever you are, you may, through faith in Jesus Christ, enter into fellowship with God.

2) Jesus Christ is the Door entered only by the sheep: “I am the door of the sheep” (v 7). All mankind is divided by God into sheep and goats. Sheep are those who will believe in Jesus Christ; goats are those who will not (v 26). None but sheep, believers in Jesus Christ, will enter the door of fellowship with God.

3) Jesus Christ is the only door: “I am the door of the sheep” (v 7; cp. vv 8, 10). “For there is...one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus” (1 Tim.2:5). Jesus therefore declares, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). You cannot approach God through any other person or thing.

4) Jesus Christ is the door to salvation: “If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved” (v 9). God is too holy to even look upon sin (Hab 1:13). They who would approach Him, therefore, must be forgiven of their sins. This forgiveness is obtained only through faith in Jesus Christ and His redeeming blood (Eph 1:7; Acts 16:31). “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

5) Jesus Christ is the door to liberty: “If anyone enters by Me, he will...go in and out...” (v 9). Jesus Christ provides perfect freedom from all harm and danger to sinners enslaved by their fears and doubts. His sheep can say, “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies...Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever” (Psa 23:4-6).

6) Jesus Christ is the door to provision: “If anyone enters by Me, he will...find pasture” (v 9). God ascertains that all His sheep are well fed and nourished. His sheep can say, “The LORD is My shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters” (Psa 23:1-3a).

7) Jesus Christ is the door to abundant life: “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (v 10). The “thief” is a false prophet or heretical preacher. All who would enter Heaven through following them will suffer the same fate as their leaders at the final judgment. God says, “...And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness’” (Matt 7:15-23). But all who follow Jesus Christ receive “life...abundantly.” Jesus Christ says to them, “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand” (John 10:28).

(Those professing Christians who claim they may be “saved today, but lost tomorrow” have evidently never entered this door). Have you entered God's fellowship through Christ, the Door?

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SPURGEON SPEAKS TO THE DOUBTING CHRISTIAN WHO THINKS HE HAS LOST HIS EVIDENCES OF SALVATION

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

It is our habit, in our ministry, to avoid extremes as much as possible, and to keep to the narrow path of the Truth of God. We believe in the Doctrine of Predestination, we believe in the Doctrine of Free Agency, and we follow the narrow path between those mountains. So in all other Truths of God. We know some who think that doubts are not sins—we regret their thinking that. We know others who believe doubts to be impossible where there is any faith—we cannot agree with them. We have heard of persons ridiculing that very sweet and admirable hymn, beginning—

“’Tis a point I long to know.”

We dare not ridicule it ourselves, for we have often had to sing it—we wish it were not so, but we are compelled to confess that doubts have vexed us. The true position, with regard to the doubts and fears of Believers, is just this—that they are sinful, and are not to be cultivated, but to be avoided; but that, more or less, most of Christians do suffer them, and that they are no proof of a man’s being destitute of faith, for the very best of Christians have been subject to them. To you who are laboring under anxious thought I now address myself.

Let me *bid you to remember in the first place matters of the past*. Shall I pause and let your heart talk to you? Do you remember the place, the spot of ground where Jesus first met with you? Perhaps you do not. Well, do you remember happy seasons when He has brought you to the banqueting house? Cannot you remember gracious deliverances? “I was brought low and He helped *me*.” “You have been *my* help.” When you were in those past circumstances, you thought yourselves in overwhelming trouble. You have passed through them, and cannot you find comfort in them?

At the south of Africa the sea was generally so stormy that when the frail boats of the Portuguese went sailing south, they named it the Cape of Storms; but after that cape had been well rounded by bolder navigators, they named it the Cape of Good Hope. In your experience you had many Capes of Storms, but you have weathered them all, and now, let them be a Capes of Good Hopes to you. Remember, “You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings will I rejoice.” Say with David, “Why are you cast down, O my Soul, why are you disquieted in me? Hope you in God, for I shall yet praise Him.”

Do I not remember this day some Hill Mizars where my soul has had such sweet fellowship with God, that she thought herself in Heaven? Can I not remember moments of awful agony of soul, when in an instant my spirit leaped to the topmost heights of ecstasy at the mention of my Savior’s name? Have there not been times with me at the Lord’s Table, in private prayer, and in listening to His Word, when I could say—

*“My willing soul would stay
In such a frame as this,
And sit and sing herself away,
To everlasting bliss”?*

Well, let me remember this, and have hope, for—

*“Did Jesus once upon me shine,
Then Jesus is forever mine!”*

He never loved where He afterwards hates; His will never changes. It is

not possible that He who said, “I have engraved you upon the palms of My hands,” should ever forget or cast away those who once were dear to Him.

Possibly, however, that may not be the means of comfort to some of you. Recall, I pray, the fact that *others have found the Lord true to them*. They cried to God, and He delivered *them*. Do you not remember your mother? She is now in Heaven, and you her son are toiling and struggling onward here below. Do not you recollect what she told you before she died? She said God had been faithful and true to her. She was left a widow, and you were but a child then, and she told you how God provided for her, and for you, and the rest of that little needy family in answer to her pleadings. Do you believe your mother’s testimony, and will you not rest with your mother’s faith upon your mother’s God?

There are gray heads here who would, if it were the proper season, testify to you that in an experience of 50 and 60 years in which they have walked before the Lord in the land of the living, they cannot put their finger upon any date and say, “Here God was unfaithful,” or, “Here He left me in the time of trouble.” I, who am but young, have passed through many and sore tribulations after my sort, and can say and must say it, for if I speak not, the timbers of this house might cry out against my ungrateful silence—He is a faithful God, and He remembers His servants, and leaves them not in the hour of their trouble.

Remember, again, and perhaps this may be consolatory to you, that though you think you are not a child of God at all now, yet *if you look within, you will see some faint traces of the Holy Spirit’s hand*. The complete picture of Christ is not there, but cannot you see the crayon sketch—the outline—the charcoal marks? “What,” you say, “do you mean?” Do you want to be a Christian? Have you not desires after God? Cannot you say with the Psalmist, “My heart and my flesh pants after God—after the living God”?

Oh, I have often had to console myself with this, when I could not see a single Christian Grace beaming in my spirit, I have had to say, “I know I shall never be satisfied until I get to be like my Lord.” One thing I know, whereas I was blind, now I see—see enough, at least, to know my own defects, and emptiness, and misery; and I have just enough spiritual life to feel that I want more, and that I cannot be satisfied unless I have more. Well, now, where God the Holy Spirit has done as much as that, He will do more! Where He begins a good work, we are told He will carry it on and perfect it in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Call that to mind, Brothers and Sisters, and you may have hope.

But I would remind you that *there is a promise in this Book that exactly describes and suits your case*. A young man had been left by his father heir of all his property, but an adversary disputed his right. The case was to come on in the court, and this young man, while he felt sure that he had a legal right to the whole, could not prove it. His legal adviser told him that there was more evidence needed than he

(See Jesus Came to Save Sinners! on page 9)

JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS!

(Continued from page 8)

could bring. How to get this evidence he did not know. He went to an old chest where his father had kept his papers, turned all out, and as he turned the writings over, and over, and over, there was an old parchment. He undid the red tape with great anxiety and there it was—the very thing he needed—his father’s will—in which the estate was spoken of as being left entirely to himself. He went into court boldly enough with that!

Now, when we get into doubts, it is a good thing to turn to this old Book, and read until at last we can say, “That is it—that Promise was made for me.” Perhaps it may be this one—“When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue fails for thirst, I the Lord will hear them; I the God of Jacob will not forsake them.” Or this one—“Whoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” May I beg you to rummage the old Book through? And you, poor doubting, despairing Christian, will soon stumble on some precious parchment, as it were, which God the Holy Spirit will make to you the title-deed of immortality and life!

If these recollections should not suffice, I have one more. You look at me, and you open your ears to find what new thing I am going to tell you. No, I am going to tell you nothing new, but yet it is the best thing that was ever said out of Heaven, “*Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.*” You have heard that a thousand times—and is the best music you have ever heard! If I am not a saint, I am a sinner; and if I may not go to the Throne of Grace as a child, I will go as a sinner. A certain king was accustomed on set occasions to entertain all the beggars of the city. Around him sat his courtiers, all clothed in rich apparel; the beggars sat at the same table in their rags of poverty. Now, it came to pass, that on a certain day, one of the courtiers had spoiled his silken apparel so that he dared not put it on, and he felt, “I cannot go to the king’s feast today, for my robe is foul.” He sat weeping till the thought struck him, “Tomorrow, when the king holds his feast, some will come as courtiers happily decked in their beautiful array, and others will come and be made quite as welcome who will be dressed in rags. Well, well,” he said, “as long as I may see the king’s face, and sit at the king’s table, I will enter with the beggars.” So, without mourning because he had lost his silken habit, he put on the rags of a beggar, and he saw the king’s face as well as if he had worn his scarlet and fine linen.

My soul has done this full many a time, and I bid you do the same; if you cannot come as a saint, come as a sinner, only come, and you shall receive joy and peace. There was a lamentable accident which occurred in the North in one of the coal pits, when a considerable number of miners were down below, when the top of the pit fell in, and the shaft was completely blocked up. Those who were down below, sat together in the dark and sang and prayed. They gathered to a spot where the last remains of air below could be breathed. There they sat and sang after the lights had gone out, because the air would not support the flame. They were in total darkness, but one of them said he had heard that there was a connection between that pit and an old pit that had been worked years ago. He said it was a low passage, through which a man might get by crawling all the way, lying flat upon the ground—he would go and see—the passage was very low, but they crept through it, and at last

they came out to light at the bottom of the other pit, and their lives were saved. If my present way to Christ as a saint gets blocked up, if I cannot go straight up the shaft, and see the Light of my Father up yonder, there is an old working, the old fashioned way by which sinners go, by which poor thieves go, by which harlots go—come, I will crawl along lowly and humbly, flat upon the ground—I will crawl along till I see my Father, and cry, “Father, I am not worthy to be called Your son; make me as one of Your hired servants, as long as I may but dwell in Your house.”

In your very worst case you can still come as *sinners*. “Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners,” call this to mind and you may have hope.—Adapted from Sermon #654, Volume 11—*MEMORY—THE HANDMAID OF HOPE*—read/download, by God’s Grace, all 63 volumes of CH Spurgeon sermons, and over 500 Spanish translations free of charge at www.spurgeongems.org.

IS YOUR HEART RIGHT?

By Charles H. Spurgeon

I remember a person puzzling himself fearfully with that passage in Scripture about Jesus weeping over Jerusalem. He went and looked at Dr. Gill about it; he went to Thomas Scott about it, and he went to Matthew Henry about it; and these good Divines all puzzled him as much as they could, but they did not seem to clear up the matter.

The good man could not understand how Jesus Christ could say as He did, “How often would I have gathered you, but you would not!” One day he received more Divine Grace, and developed a love for souls, and then the old skin of narrow-mindedness which had been once large enough for him began to crack and break, and he went to the passage then, and said, “I can understand it now; I do not know how it is consistent with such-and-such a Doctrine, but it is very consistent with what I feel in my heart.”

And I feel just the same. I used to be puzzled by that passage where Paul says that he could wish himself accursed from God for his Brethren’s sake. Why, I have often felt the same, and now I understand how a man can say in the exuberance of his love to others, that he would be willing to perish himself if he might save them! Of course it never could be done, but such is the extravagance of a holy love for souls that it breaks through reason, and knows no bounds. Get the heart right, and you get right upon many difficult points.—Adapted from Sermon #716, Volume 12—*THE CHURCH AWAKENED*—read/download, by God’s Grace, all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons, and over 500 Spanish translations free of charge at www.spurgeongems.org.

**PRAY YOUR CHAPLAIN/PASTOR
WILL BE GIVEN A
GREAT LOVE and KNOWLEDGE
OF JESUS CHRIST.**

ON GIVING AND PRIESTS

By Charles H. Spurgeon

It is thought by some if they should add to all their good works, a good deal of generosity, surely they will be saved. "Suppose I give money to the poor, build a lot of alms-houses, and help to build a church? Suppose I am generous even beyond my means, will not this help me?" Sinner, why do you ask such a question? God has set before you a door, an open door, and over it is written, "Believe and live," and yet you go about and wander abroad to find another door?!

What is all your gold worth, Man? Why, Heaven is paved with it! All the gold you have would not buy a single slab of the eternal pavement, and do you think to enter there by way of your giving to the poor? If God were hungry, He would not tell you, for His are the cattle on a thousand hills, and His are the mines of silver, and the sparkling ores of gold. The diamond, and the topaz, and the chrysolite are all His own, and His eyes see them hidden in their secret veins and lodes, and do you think to bribe the Eternal with your paltry purse? Oh, do you understand that, "To obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams"?

"Yes, but," says the sinner, "what if I could add to all this a great deal of confidence in those good men who are recognized by the world as priests? Suppose I put myself into their bonds? I would not go to the Roman Catholics, for I do not like them much, but supposing I go to the Episcopalians—for they have priests, too, and sprinkle children with holy water, and bury the reprobate dead, in 'sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection to everlasting life'—could not they do something for me?"

"Or suppose I go to some Dissenting minister, [such as Spurgeon] and put myself under his care, cannot he help me?" No, Sir, there is nothing in us that can help you one jot! We hate the very thought of being

priests—I would sooner be a devil than be a priest with the exception of being what all Christians are—priests unto God. Let me justify that strong remark; of all pretensions on earth there is none as detestable as the pretense of being able to bestow Divine Grace upon men, and of standing between their souls and God.

Beloved, we are your servants for Christ's sake, but as for any priestly authority to give Grace to you, we shake off the imputation as Paul shook off the viper from his hand into the fire. We speak to men of our own kith and kin, we talk to you out of warm earnest hearts, but we can only say to you, "Do not trust in us, for you will be fools if you do; do not trust in any man, for though you might make a sacrifice of your reason by so doing, yet remember that, 'to obey is better than sacrifice.'"

God demands of you not submission to your fellow men, whoever they may be; He requires of you not to listen to the pealing of organs, not to attend gorgeous ceremonies where the smoke of incense goes up in gaudy palaces dedicated to His service; but He requires this, that you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and then He tells you that you shall live. Trust the Savior, and you shall not perish, neither shall any pluck you out of His hand. But if you refuse this way of salvation, then there is none other presented to you, and you must perish in your sins.

"To obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams."—See Sermon #686, Volume 12—OBEDIENCE BETTER THAN SACRIFICE—read/download, by God's Grace, all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons, and over 500 Spanish translations free of charge at www.spurgeonems.org.

"One foot in the grave"?
no, my Brothers
and Sisters!
Rather,
"one foot in Heaven!"

"It is well for us, if we have to preach or pray, always to ask the Spirit to help our infirmity, and tune our hearts to the right key, for though our God can use us in any frame of mind, yet we must all be aware that there are certain states in which we become more adapted to be the vehicle of blessing to our fellow men."—CHS—Sermon #747, Vol. 13.

Pray daily for Pastor Curt Daniel of Faith Bible Church in Springfield, IL. You can visit his site at

<http://faithbibleonline.net/index.html>

Neglect of *private prayer*
is the locust which
devours the strength
of the Church.—CHS

Public prayer is no evidence of piety! It is practiced by an abundance of hypocrites! But *private prayer* is a thing for which the hypocrite has no heart—and if he gives himself to it for a little time, he soon finds it too hot and heavy a business for his soulless soul to persevere in—and he lets it drop. He will sooner perish than continue in private prayer! O for heart searching about this! Do I draw near to God alone? Do I pray when no eyes see, when no ears hear? Do I make a conscience habit of private prayer? Is it a delight to pray? For I may gather that if I never enjoy private prayer I am one of those hypocrites who will not always call upon God.—CHS

HAVE YOU PRAYED FOR YOUR
CHAPLAIN/PASTOR TODAY?

REPENTANCE!

By A. W. Pink

To His servants Christ gave commandment “that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (Luke 24:47). “Beginning at Jerusalem” not because of any dispensational reason, but because Grace would commence with the most unlikely and unworthy ones.

But O how little repentance is being preached today, even by those claiming to be the true servants of God! “Believe, believe, only believe” is being sounded forth widely, but where is the voice now being lifted up in the wilderness crying “repent”? Are not the claims of God to be pressed upon men, and their utter and awful failure to meet those claims, *before* we tell them of His Grace?

And what are the claims of God upon every human creature? Are they not summed up in, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.” Is He not entitled to this? Can He ever demand less? Is He not infinitely worthy of being loved? And is not that love to be expressed by *obedience*, by complete subjection to Him, by seeking to please Him in all things?

And is not the failure of fallen man to meet this righteous demand of God that which constitutes the very “sinfulness of sin”? Is it not that, so far from having been in subjection to God’s will and having sought His pleasure, man has turned aside to his own way, and sought only to please himself? And is it not the first duty of God’s servants to expound and explain this solemn fact, pressing it on the consciences of their hearers?

Does not the Old Testament precede the New? Does not the ministry of John the Baptist precede that of Christ? Does not Romans 1:18 to 3:20 precede Romans 3:21-26? Does not repentance toward God precede faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ? Certainly it does! But where does it do so in the preaching of present-day evangelists? None can truly believe in Christ till their hearts are broken before God through a deep realization of the awfulness of their condition in His sight.

The ground must be plowed before it can receive the seed. To preach the finished work of Christ to those who have little or no realization of their awful condition before Him—that is, the consciousness that the whole of their life has consisted of self-pleasing to the utterly ignoring of God—is only to cast pearls before swine. And what will be the effect?

What *is* the effect the world over? This: those who have never been convicted by the Holy Spirit will cordially assent to the letter of the Gospel, receive the Word with joy, accept Christ as their personal Savior, and begin to swell the crowd of those having a form of godliness, but who are total strangers to a supernatural, conscience-plowing, contrite heart-giving and transforming power!

Proverbs 28:13, Isaiah 55:7, Acts 3:19 are just as much a part of God’s Word as is John 3:16, yet none would ever discover it from what he now hears, even in the Gospel halls. O my Brothers in the ministry, preach *repentance* if you would honor God, discharge your responsibility and be faithful unto the souls of your hearers! Suppose it makes you to be unpopular: what of that if you receive *Christ’s*, “well done,” in that Day!—(Gleaned from Brother Pink’s *Studies in the Scriptures*, November, 1933).

PRAY DAILY FOR OUR PRESIDENT.

Psalm 115:15

May You Be Blessed of the Lord Who Made Heaven and Earth

By C. H. Spurgeon

I see many little children here this evening. Oh, if you fear God, if you pray to God, if you trust in Jesus, and if your young hearts have been taught to love God, small as you are, you are the blessed of the Lord that made Heaven and earth! Jesus loves to receive children to His bosom as much, now, as ever He did when He lived upon earth! Come to Him by faith, and He will bless you!

There are here many young enquirers who have only just begun to pray, and who are between hope and fear like new-born children whose lives tremble in the balances. To them it must be cheering to observe that the Lord blesses the “small” as well as the “great.” The Lord regards the contrite in spirit, and He hears the groans of broken hearts—His delight is to bless the lowly in mind. Though Grace is small in you, yet He will not quench the smoking flax. “Fear not, little flock, it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

And you poor in this world, you humble, you illiterate, you obscure, you sickly ones—you with little talent and slender opportunity for serving God—I pray you rejoice in the assurance of the text, for you are the blessed of the Lord if you walk before Him in holy fear! The eyes that look to God, and trust Him even when they cannot see Him, are blessed eyes! The heart that pines after God even when it cannot rejoice in Him is a blessed heart!

And the hand that stretches itself out after God, saying, “Oh that I knew where I might find Him,” is still a blessed hand, even though, for the moment, it cannot lay hold upon the Word of promise. If you sigh and cry after God with a true heart, looking to Him in His own way, through Christ His Son, you are numbered with those who fear the Lord, who are blessed of Him whether they are small or great!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, —Sermon #1077, Vol. 18—*The Lord Blessing His Saints*—Read/download entire sermon at www.spurgeongems.org.

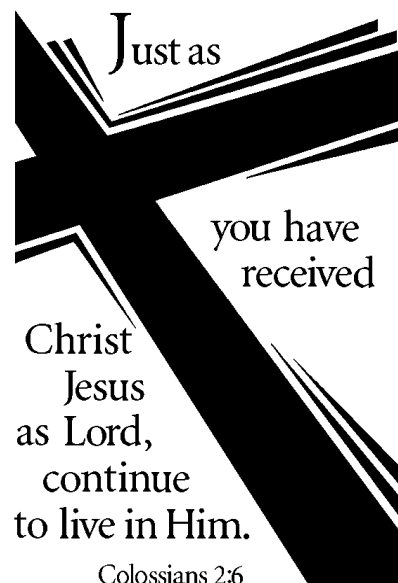
SPURGEON ON DEATH

Beloved, in a short time, unless the Lord shall come, you and I will have to go upstairs, and gather up our feet in the bed and die, to meet our fathers’ God. Well, if it should happen to be some disease which gives us warning and opportunity to think beforehand—we will go onward, in the strength of the Lord, with death in full view—without any trepidation! Some of us know what it is to lie for days and weeks, looking into eternity, till our eyes have been able to gaze steadily on death and all the future. We have grown so used to the prospect, and so peaceful in reference to it, that we have almost been sorry to come back again to life, and its trials and sins!

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Pray for Grace to speak of your love for Jesus Christ.

In This Issue...

...and, Lord willing, every issue, our *only* purpose is to honor *Jesus Christ*.

Jesus Christ, the Sacrifice!

By C. H. Spurgeon

Abram, after being justified by faith, was *led more distinctly to behold the power of sacrifice*. By God's command, (Gen 15:9-10), he killed a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, with a turtle dove, and a young pigeon, being all the creatures ordained for sacrifice. The Patriarch's hands are stained with blood. He handles the butcher's knife—he divides the beasts, he kills the birds—he places them in an order revealed to him by God's Spirit at the time. There they are. Abram learns that there is no meeting with God except through *sacrifice*. God has shut every door except that over which the blood is sprinkled. All acceptable approaches to God must be through an atoning sacrifice—and Abram understood this.

While the promise is still in his ears; while the ink is yet wet in the pen of the Holy Spirit, writing him down as justified—he must see a *sacrifice*, and see it, too, in emblems which comprehend all the Revelation of sacrifice made to Aaron. So, Brothers and Sisters, it is a blessed thing when your faith justifies you if it helps you to obtain more complete and vivid views of the Atoning Sacrifice of Jesus Christ! The purest and most bracing air for faith to breathe is on Calvary. I do not wonder that your faith grows weak when you fail to consider well the tremendous Sacrifice which Jesus made for His people! Turn to the annals of the Redeemer's sufferings given us in the Evangelists. Bow yourself in prayer before the Lamb of God—blush to think you should have forgotten His death which is the center of all history!

Contemplate the wondrous transaction of *Substitution* once again, and you will find your faith revived! It is not the study of *theology*; it is not reading books upon points of controversy; it is not searching into mysterious prophecy which will bless your soul—it is looking to Jesus Crucified! That is the essential nutrition of the life of faith, and mind, that you keep to it. As a man already justified, Abram looked at the sacrifice all day long, and till the sun went down, chasing away the birds of prey as you must drive off all disturbing thoughts (Gen 15:11). So must you also study the Lord Jesus and view Him in all His Characters and Offices. Be not satisfied unless you grow in Divine Grace, and in the knowledge of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #844, Vol. 14—*Justification by Faith—Illustrated by Abram's Righteousness*.—Read/download entire sermon on www.spurgeongems.org.